

Sandlin, Chelsea Combs, Gabriella Woods, Reagan Kilgore and Lauren Delpont.

PERMANENTLY EXTENDING INCREASED STANDARD DEDUCTION, AND 15-PERCENT INDIVIDUAL INCOME TAX RATE BRACKET EXPANSION, FOR MARRIED TAXPAYERS FILING JOINT RETURNS

SPEECH OF

HON. JEFF MILLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 28, 2004

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, today we will be voting on important legislation; legislation that will help roughly 21 million young Americans financially. I am speaking about marriage penalty relief. Thanks to the peculiarities of the tax code, when married couples earn roughly the same salaries, they tend to pay more in taxes than they would if both were single filers. Our previous action to extend this tax relief benefit has encouraged marriage and saved the average married couple \$1,400 a year, allowing them to spend on items that support their families.

This discrepancy financially penalizes couples for doing nothing more than choosing to get married, which creates a strong disincentive for people to build families. With a breakdown of the family and high divorce rates, we need to strengthen marriage not weaken it. As every study shows, children fare best and have the most promising life prospects when they are raised in intact families. Promoting marriage has the potential to significantly decrease poverty and dependence, increase child well-being and adult happiness, and to provide the safest environment for women and children.

Mr. Speaker, letting the tax penalty relief expire would cost families 1,400 a year. The federal government should not be picking pockets of people just because they are married. If we do not extend the marriage penalty tax today, Uncle Sam will not only once again be taking a gift at the wedding reception instead of giving one, but will also be contributing to the breakdown of our basic social institution: marriage.

IN RECOGNITION OF PUBLIC SAFETY APPRECIATION DAY

HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 4, 2004

Mr. FARR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to support Monterey County's recognition of April 29, 2004 as Public Safety Appreciation Day. The County Supervisors have adopted a resolution on behalf of Monterey County and its residents recognizing the men and women who undertake the difficult and important work demanded of emergency services personnel. I would like to join the residents of Monterey County in thanking these personnel for their professional, heroic response to emergencies.

These men and women do their work to provide a timely, effective first response to un-

predictable, often dangerous circumstances with admirable bravery and commitment. Emergency services personnel include 9-1-1 dispatchers, fire fighters, peace officers and emergency medical personnel, but in fulfilling their responsibility for maintaining public safety their actions often transcend their job descriptions.

I would like to include in this recognition the efforts of the personnel of the Monterey County Emergency Communications Department and Office of Emergency Services, and all those who work to ensure that first responders have the support they need to continue providing effective emergency services to our community.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to join the Board of Supervisors and the residents of Monterey County in showing my appreciation to the men and women who maintain public safety and work quickly to restore it following an emergency. These same personnel are often mentors and role models even outside their job, and I am pleased to recognize their contribution.

RECOGNIZING WILLIAM BOYAN'S SERVICE AS CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES AT CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL BOSTON

HON. MICHAEL E. CAPUANO

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 4, 2004

Mr. CAPUANO. Speaker, I rise today to recognize William Boyan's leadership as Chairman of the Children's Hospital Boston Board of Trustees.

Mr. Boyan has had a long and distinguished business career in my state, culminating as President and Chief Executive Officer of John Hancock Financial Services. No less impressive, however, is his work on behalf of the children of Massachusetts.

Mr. Boyan recently completed a five-year term as Chairman of the Children's Hospital Board. He will remain as a Board member, where he has served with distinction for the past twenty-five years. Under his leadership, Children's Hospital Boston has continued its preeminent work in clinical medicine, research, and training, on behalf of our nation's youngest patients.

As a true public servant, Mr. Boyan has lent his wisdom and expertise to many initiatives throughout Massachusetts. He also currently serves on the Boston School Committee, and his commitment to the city's children and their education is well-known. His passion for excellence and his philanthropic efforts on behalf of the schools have made a real difference in the lives of children in every neighborhood of the city.

Children's Hospital has been a leading voice on behalf of children's health care needs. The hospital's many community service projects touch the lives of children and families throughout the state. Mr. Boyan's dedication has been an essential part of the hospital's success.

Mr. Speaker, it is with pleasure that I recognize and honor William Boyan's efforts and achievements.

THANK YOU, BILLIE BRIGGS

HON. GENE GREEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 4, 2004

Mr. GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to extend my gratitude and appreciation for Billie Briggs who has been named a recipient of the Milken Family Foundation's National Educator Award.

Ms. Briggs teaches math at Cobb Sixth Grade School in Houston, TX and is regarded as the best though she has only been teaching for eight years. I commend Ms. Briggs for her accomplishment and dedication to her students and to education itself.

Ms. Briggs displays her dedication to all students at Cobb Sixth Grade School and throughout HISD by Serving as Sponsor of the Math and Science Club, National Junior Honor Society Advisor, Math Department Chair and by representing secondary-level math on the District Planning and Advisory Committee. In addition, her innovative methods of presenting students with fun projects through which they learn essential skills are praised throughout the education community.

I would like to congratulate Billie Briggs on being named one of our nation's top teachers and extend my thanks for her dedication to students in Houston.

CONGRATULATING FELLOW ALUMNI ON THEIR INDUCTION INTO COLLINGWOOD'S HALL OF FAME

HON. STEPHANIE TUBBS JONES

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 4, 2004

Mrs. JONES of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, as a proud Collinwood High School alumna, I would like to congratulate some of my fellow alumni on their induction into Collinwood's Hall of Fame.

The mission of Collinwood High School, in partnership with parents and community, is to provide a challenging academic and technologically based atmosphere with a commitment to literacy that encourages academic excellence and prepares all students to become productive members of a diverse society. The alumni that I am honoring today certainly reflect the success of this mission.

Ten people will be inducted into the Collinwood High School Alumni Hall of Fame on May 5. They are Francine Bruening, class of 1960, former Lake County domestic relations judge; Joseph Cannavino Jr., 1953, former Ohio State football star and basketball coach; Michael Cannavino, 1945, retired teacher and coach; Primo Del Calzo, 1952, retired speech, hearing and language teacher; Dan DiLiberto, 1966, Eastlake mayor; Dr. Albert Iosue, 1958, doctor and former chief radiologist in a Florida hospital; Milton Schalouis, 1949, an insurance executive; Elinor Scricca, 1949, retired teacher, Principal and schools superintendent; Rocco Scotti, 1939, singer, noted for his rendition of the national anthem; and Mildred Teuscher, 1951, former Lake County commissioner. A pre-induction dinner will be at 4 p.m. at Redeemer on the Avenue Hall, 15901 St. Clair Ave., with the induction at 6 p.m. in the high school auditorium.